

Academic Excellence plan to benefit students

Michael Cooke, Vice-President, Academic Excellence and Innovation and Co-ordinator of the College's Change Project believes that, "George Brown's future stands or falls on the quality of the programs we provide. And for that reason, issues related to academic excellence are at the very heart of the Change Project."

As the lead person for the Academic Excellence initiative of the Action Plan, Cooke reports that a plan will be announced later this spring that details how the quality of the education we provide to students will be improved.

Stemming from suggestions made at the 'Building our Future' forums last fall, this detailed plan of proposed actions is formally called the 'Academic Excellence Plan.' The actions are targeted to improve: the degree to which all faculty are providing up-to-date educational materials to students; flexibility of delivery; feedback to students; support for under-prepared students; student advisement; program standards; and mapping of curriculum.

A key resource in support of this plan will be the appointment of a Director of Academic Development and Research who will report to Cooke. The Director, who is scheduled to join the College in June 2000, will take a lead role in providing data, resources and programming to support the implementation of the Academic Excellence plan.

Cooke adds that, "Of the 54 cumulative actions cited in the College-Wide Action Plan, the largest number deal directly with academic excellence and related human resource strategies, making it the pivotal component of the whole plan."

"The government's recent announcement of the 'performance funding' awards for 2000-2001," according to Cooke, "...further underlines the crucial importance of student and graduate satisfaction, both of which are largely determined by academic excellence." Cooke sees four key drivers of academic excellence: teacher knowledge, teacher currency, program quality and student preparedness.

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Friday, March 17, Front Street: Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! New Brunswick Traditional Irish Band, Leighton & Kiting entertain students at the first St. Patrick's Day Tent Party, organized and staffed by the Student Association, as part of the St. Lawrence Irish Festival. Located in the courtyard just west of the North Market, students and the public could also enjoy a BBQ lunch, beverages and a second Irish music band later that day.

New members bring diverse backgrounds to Board of Governors

As reported in our last issue of *City College News*, President Frank

Sorochinsky announced, at the February 9 Board of Governors meeting, the appointment of two new Board members: Suellen Glenat, former St. Clair College Board member; and Bob Crawford, founder of First Nations Protective Services. Both new members are expected to attend the Board's April 12 meeting.

In a report published in February, Sorochinsky says, "Suellen Glenat has worked in a number of industries that are very important to the College's strategic direction."

Formerly an active member of the St. Clair College Board of

Governors, Suellen Glenat is currently the Human Resources Manager for the gaming divisions of Ontario Lottery Corporation. Her professional background includes playing a leadership role in a number of sectors, such as high-technology, management consulting, hospitality, medical and fitness/recreation.

Glenat is a graduate of York University and Skyline College in San Bruno, California. She studied Human Resources at Cornell University and has received her Canadian Human Resources Professional (C.H.R.P.) designation.

Bob Crawford brings to the College a background in

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And how well is George Brown doing in these areas? Results from the 1999 KPI data in both student and graduate satisfaction clearly show that there definitely is room for improvement. "We have lots of other data," says Cooke, "...from the student feedback forum, program reviews, accreditation visits (where they apply) and attrition data on our programs that points to significant gaps in the College's performance."

The objective of the Program Renewal component of the Action Plan—item 5 ("Program Renewal")—is, "To ensure the quality and relevancy of George Brown College programs." Next on the agenda for Program Renewal is to begin the draft process to review the 15 lowest performing programs (on the basis of student demand, KPI results and financial performance).

For more information about the Action Plan, (which includes 14 Action areas in total) or to get a hard copy, call Jacqueline MacNeil, Administrative Assistant to the President, at ext. 4472.



Casting her ballot: On Wednesday, March 15, Graphic Design student Mariko Warren (right) votes at the annual Student Association (SA) elections. Student volunteers on hand to give directions are: (from left) Anna Bartula and Karin Sze. The new SA President, Drew Sauveur, will begin his term on May 15.

You have a voice in City College News! Your comments are welcomed

City College News will publish letters submitted by George Brown staff and students. The submissions should be relatively brief (maximum 200 words) and should concern topics of widespread interest to the College community. Submissions may be edited for length, style and grammar. *City College News* reserves the right to choose the submissions it publishes. Submissions should be sent by e-mail to nmcgilli@gbrownc.on.ca. Otherwise they can be faxed to (416) 415-2303 or delivered to the Communications and Marketing Department in Room 542E, 200 King St. E. (St. James Campus).

Vignette— George Brown Jewellery Arts Exhibition

You are invited to the opening reception for an exhibition of selected works by the 2000 graduating class of the jewellery arts program!

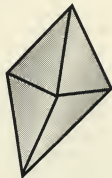
The jewellery and metal work show is organized and co-ordinated by this year's 15 third-year student participants. Items on display will include rings, pins, earrings and surprise items—made from multi-coloured gold and silver, including precious stones.

A selection of the items can be purchased at Bounty, the Harbourfront Centre craft shop.

- Exhibition: March 29 - April 26, 2000
- Opening reception: Friday March 31, 2000 5:30-8 p.m.

Harbourfront Centre—Uncommon Objects, South Breezeway
235 Queen's Quay West

All staff and students are welcome! For more information, call Carl Torode at ext. 4462.



George Brown Awards of Excellence

Deadline for nominations: March 31.

Do you know someone at GBC who never fails to impress... who accomplishes all that is expected and more... and whose ideas and achievements support the College's strategic direction?

Your colleague may be a faculty member who has made significant strides in his or her teaching approach and/or field of expertise. He or she may be a person in your finance department who has solved an audit problem with a different approach, or an assistant in the registrar's office whose sensitive and approachable manner has warmed the hearts of many students and fellow colleagues. He or she may be the person you report to who demonstrates exemplary management practices and gives new meaning to the word leadership.

We invite you to nominate such an exemplary person or team of people to receive the George Brown College Awards of Excellence and become eligible for the Board of Governors' Awards of Excellence for 2000.

George Brown College staff have made enormous contributions to the quality and excellence of our programs, to the standards of achievement of our graduates, and to the overall rich and diverse climate of our educational community. The George Brown College and Board of Governors' Awards of Excellence provide staff with an opportunity to acknowledge the performances and achievements of colleagues within their respective faculty or service area and to honour the recipients whose contributions have been deemed outstanding by their peers.

All full- and part-time College staff are eligible for the Awards of Excellence and any George Brown College staff member or student, full- or part-time, is invited to submit a nomination. The Award categories are: Teaching Excellence, Outstanding Service to the College Community, Outstanding Community Service, Leadership, and Team Achievement.

Nomination forms are available at any campus Registration Centre, Learning Resources Centre, Dean's/Director's Office, President's Office (St. James), or Human Resources Department (Casa Loma). For more information, call ext. 4473.

College's Technology Dean featured in publication

George Brown Technology Dean Joy McKinnon was profiled in the January/February issue of *Design Engineering*, which calls itself "Canada's leading design engineering publication." On the magazine's front cover is a photo of McKinnon, George Brown physics and electronics teacher Kelda Wells, and five technology students. Inside, the double page feature article "Women in Technology: Industry leaders speak up" includes interview excerpts from both McKinnon and Wells.



Monday, March 20, Casa Loma Campus: The 8th Annual Labour Fair 'As the Work World Turns: Chains or Change?' got off to a rollicking start with an official launch ceremony, hosted by organizer Maureen Hynes. Vice-President Corporate Services Eugene Harrigan (left) and Marilou Martin, President OPSEU Local 557 addressed the crowd of students and invited their participation in the many events at this year's Fair. Featured events included singers, an extensive list of lectures, video screenings and game shows.

city college people

New Administrative Staff:

Patricia Carnegie, Chair, Community Health, Faculty of Community Services and Health Sciences.

New Academic Staff:

Kevin McLoughlin, Professor, Faculty of Technology.

New Support Staff:

Benu Kumar, Clerk, Financial Assistance, Student Affairs Department; Joanne Thomson, Technologist, Allied Health, Faculty of Community Services and Health Sciences.

Leaving the College:

Jim Jensen, Manager, Financial Services, Finance Department; Liz Ukrainetz, Library Technician, Office Workers Career Centre.

Retiring from the College:

Maria Kouritis, Housekeeping, Facilities Management Department.

Correction:

Contrary to a reference in the 'News in Brief' section of the *City College News* (March 13 issue), Colin Simpson is the Dean of the Centre for Continuous Learning.

college calendar

MARCH

28—"Building our Future" 2nd Student Forum: To be held in the Student Lounge at St. James Campus, from 2:30–5 p.m. All staff and students are welcome to attend. For more information, call Wayne Poirier at ext. 2456, or Michael Cooke at ext. 2569.

28—Last day for Bookstore orders: This is the final day for all College departments to place bookstore orders for textbooks, supplies and computer products before the end of the current fiscal year. For more information, call Sean Robinson at ext. 2666.

30—Fiesta Fantastica fundraising event for College's Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund (OSOTF): All staff are invited to help raise funds for students in financial need. To be held at Plaza Flamingo Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.–12 midnight. Including Spanish tapas buffet, Flamenco floor show, door prizes, Latin dance instruction and much more. For information/tickets, call Wendy Ramroop at ext. 2063.

31—Deadline for OSOTF full-time bursary contributions: The last day for staff to contribute to Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund bursaries (including the Sally Quan Memorial Bursaries for nursing students) and have the amount matched by the Ontario government. For more information, call Margo Sheppard at ext. 2405.

31—Deadline for Awards of Excellence nominations: Nomination forms are available at any campus Registration Centre, Learning Resources Centre, Dean's/Director's Office, President's Office (St. James), or Human Resources Department (Casa Loma) See ad on page 3. For more information, call ext. 4473.

APRIL

3-13—"Visionary Graphics," third year graphic design students' Open House: Annual exhibition of the students' complete portfolios—outstanding pieces in all graphics disciplines. Displays will be located at St. James Campus in the 2nd floor showcases. For more information, call David Steele at ext. 2136.

5—"Visionary Graphics" show opening celebration: To be held at St. James Campus, 2nd floor, from 6–9 p.m. Free entertainment (live jazz band), food and fun. All staff and students are welcome to attend. For more information, call David Steele at ext. 2136.

12—Board of Governors meeting: To be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism, 300 Adelaide St. East, Room 310. All staff and students are welcome to attend. For more information, call Jacqueline MacNeil at ext. 4472.

13—College Council meeting: To be held at 8:45 a.m. at the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism, 300 Adelaide St. East, Room 310. All staff and students are welcome to attend. For more information, call Stephen Burr at ext. 2231.

13—Graphic Design awards show and celebration: Honouring top students in graphic design (first-, second-, and third-year), including faculty choice and professional choice awards. To be held at "The Church," 315 Queen St. East (at Berkeley St.) from 6p.m.–2a.m. Buffet dinner and live entertainment; tickets are \$30. All staff and students are welcome to attend. For more information/to order tickets, call David Steele at ext. 2136.

14—Inspirational Leadership seminar hosted by Lance Secretan: Secretan is the founder of Manpower Ltd. and a leading authority on leadership. To be held at Georgian College's Barrie campus. \$150 registration fee includes lunch, parking, workshops and plenary sessions. For more information/to register, call Linda Purser at ext. 4661, or e-mail at lpurser@gbrown.on.ca.

26—Open House for Office Workers Career Centre: Formerly called the Clerical Workers Centre (a Community Services project of George Brown College) the Office Workers Career Centre welcomes all staff to the official launch of their new name. Featured will be their new on-line discussion group for office workers, as well as the exciting research results on the impact of e-commerce. To be held at 365 Bloor St. East, Suite 1802, from 4 p.m.–6 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, call ext. 4610.

27—"Signatures 2000" Fashion Show: Produced by first-year and graduating students of the Creative Fashion Design and Technology program, the show will feature winning clothing designs pre-selected by a jury of industry professionals. To be held at 7p.m. at "The Docks" night club. For more information/to order tickets, call Debbie Fulford at ext. 4840.

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leadership in the Canadian Aboriginal Community, as well as over 25 years of experience in law enforcement. Crawford served for six years as a sergeant in the Metropolitan Toronto Police force, in charge of the Aboriginal Peacekeeping Unit—which he helped design and develop.

He is currently the President and CEO of a security guard and

private investigation company, which he founded. According to Sorochinsky, this company provides employment to, "A significant number of aboriginal Ontarians." Crawford previously founded and served as executive director of "Spirit of the People," an organization that supports Aboriginal ex-offenders.

For more information, call Jacqueline MacNeil at ext. 4472.

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